

SENATOR SCHMIT: Sure, I apologize,

SENATOR HIGGINS: What I want to know is then, on this LB 463, are you on the Executive Board, Senator Schmit?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Yes, I am, Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: And Senator Beutler is on the Executive Board.

SENATOR SCHMIT: That is right. He is the Chairman.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Was it indeed true the Exec Board had adopted that policy? I mean did they adopt the policy that these bills would go to Agriculture or to Public Works? I am asking both of you because you are both on the Exec Board.

SENATOR SCHMIT: After you.

SENATOR BEUTLER: We're going to have a difference of opinion here, Senator Higgins...

SENATOR HIGGINS: Oh, God help us.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...but I'll tell you what my opinion is. The Exec Board adopted that policy before I was a member of the Exec Board. It adopted it two years ago when the very bill you are discussing today, 463, was referenced to Ag. It adopted it when Senator Scofield's uranium mining-water quality bills were referenced to Ag. It adopted it when the underground storage tank bill two years ago was referenced to Ag. It adopted it when the interim study was referenced to Ag on these questions, water pollution questions. To me the policy was clear.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I'd like to correct my good friend Senator Beutler. The interim study was assigned to the Public Works Committee, Senator Beutler, was heard by the Public Works Committee and the Public Works Committee did properly introduce the chemigation bill, one of which is the subject of discussion here today. Senator Eret also introduced a bill as it was his every right to do and that bill is a